



JAMES A. NOYES, Director

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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IN REPLY PLEASE  
REFER TO FILE: **EP-2**

June 27, 2002

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2756

Dear Supervisors:

**ATHENS-WOODCREST-OLIVITA, BELVEDERE, FIRESTONE, MALIBU,  
MESA HEIGHTS, AND WALNUT PARK GARBAGE DISPOSAL DISTRICTS  
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS 1, 2, AND 3  
4 VOTES**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Authorize the Director of Public Works to refund the 2001-02 Fiscal Year Garbage Collection and Disposal Service Fees to those property owners in the above-referenced Garbage Disposal Districts who (a) utilized dumpster services during the entire fiscal year and (b) unless otherwise extended by the Director of Public Works, under special circumstances on a case-by-case basis, submit a refund application to the Director of Public Works not later than December 31, 2002.
2. The amount of the refund is estimated at \$363,000, \$603,000, \$309,000, \$64,000, \$77,000, and \$47,000 for Athens-Woodcrest-Olivita, Belvedere, Firestone, Malibu, Mesa Heights, and Walnut Park Districts, respectively.

**PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

In July 2001, your Board authorized this Department to refund the 2000-01 Service Fees to those customers in the above-referenced Districts who utilized dumpster services in lieu of trash receptacles serviced by the contract waste haulers during the entire Fiscal Year. The proposed recommendation provides for continuation of the Service Fees Refund Program for Fiscal Year 2001-02.

Currently, the Districts' contracts provide property owners with a weekly refuse collection from 45-gallon cans in unlimited quantities and recycling and green waste service, except in the Malibu District where refuse collection is provided twice a week. The existing contracts for Fiscal Year 2001-02 do not include any provision for collection of refuse placed in dumpsters. The dumpster service is generally utilized by property owners of condominiums, multiple residential, and/or commercial parcels. These property owners are charged an annual Garbage Collection and Disposal Service Fee by the Districts as well as being charged directly by their private haulers. However, they do not receive any services from the Districts. To address this inequity, we recommend that the Service Fees Refund Program for all six Districts be continued for Fiscal Year 2001-02.

As a follow-up to the Auditor-Controller's fiscal review of the six Districts in 1999, your Board approved the reduction of the reserves and fund balances in Athens-Woodcrest-Olivita, Malibu, and Mesa Heights Districts by providing a refund of the Service Fee to each eligible parcel of property in the above Districts in an amount equivalent to the annual Service Fee assessed on the 2000-01 and 2001-02 Joint Consolidated Annual Tax Bill. As a result, those parcels of properties which received said refunds of the District's Service Fee on their 2001-02 Tax Bill will not be eligible for the dumpster refund as indicated above.

Upon your Board's approval, all identified property owners in the Districts who utilized dumpster services will be notified by U.S. Mail of the 2001-02 refund of the Service Fees.

### **Implementation of County Strategic Plan Goals**

This action is consistent with the County Strategic Plan Goal of Fiscal Responsibility. As proposed, the Districts' Service Fee will be refunded only to those qualified property owners in each District who elected not to receive any refuse, recyclable material, and green waste collection services provided by the Districts for the entire Fiscal Year 2001-02.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The number of parcels which utilize dumpster services in each of the six Districts has been identified as follows.

<u>District</u>	<u>Number of Parcels Utilizing Dumpster Services</u>
Athens	600
Belvedere	2,104
Firestone	885
Malibu	210
Mesa Heights	224
Walnut Park	150

There will be no impact to the County General Fund.

Sufficient funds are available in each District's 2001-02 fund to provide for the refund program.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

County Counsel concurs with the above recommendation.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

The recommended Board action will have no impact on the quality of the Districts' regular and special services being provided to all residential, commercial, and business customers.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
June 27, 2002  
Page 4

**CONCLUSION**

It is requested that two approved copies of this letter be returned to this Department.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES A. NOYES  
Director of Public Works

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cc: Chief Administrative Office  
County Counsel  
Auditor Controller